Summary

Applicants have made a diligent and bona fide effort to answer each and every ground for rejection or objection to the specification including the claims and to place the application in condition for final disposition. Reconsideration and further examination is respectfully requested, and for the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition to be passed to issue and such action is earnestly solicited. However, should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Robert N. Blackmon, Applicants' Attorney at 703-684-5633 to satisfactorily conclude the prosecution of this application.

Dated: June 7, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

Merek, Blackmon & Voorhees, LLC 673 S. Washington St. Alexandria, Virginia 22314 Tel. 703-684-5633

Fax. 703-684-5637

E-mail: RNB@ BlackmonLaw.com

Robert N. Blackmon

Rea. No. 39494

Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)